

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-07 SP-02 OES-06 PM-04 PRS-01  
NSC-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 /062 W  
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R 181000Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2296

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: MNUC, TW  
SUBJECT: LOCAL PUBLICITY ON VISIT OF U.S. NUCLEAR TEAM

REF: 76 STATE 311288

1. PRESS REPORTS ON ARRIVAL OF ROC COUNTRY DIRECTOR LEVIN FIRST APPEARED IN JANUARY 17 LIEN HO PAO (LHP). ACCORDING TO THE BRIEF LHP ITEM, LEVIN, ACCOMPANIED BY ANOTHER SENIOR OFFICIAL, WAS VISITING THE ROC TO MEET WITH MOFA AND EMBASSY OFFICIALS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

2. EMBASSY SPOKESMAN DREW ON GUIDANCE CONTAINED REFTEL TO RESPOND TO FLURRY OF PRESS QUERIES ON LEVIN'S VISIT IN AFTER-NOON OF JANUARY 17. MOFA, AFTER LEARNING THAT EMBASSY SPOKESMAN HAD RESPONDED TO LOCAL NEWSMEN'S QUESTIONS, AND IN APPARENT EFFORT TO PLACE THE BEST FACE ON THE VISIT, ISSUED FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE:

"A VISITING TEAM OF U.S. NUCLEAR SCIENTISTS HAS ARRIVED HERE FOR A TWO-WEEK VISIT. THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE TEAM, WHICH IS VISITING CHINA AT THE INVITATION OF OUR GOVERNMENT, IS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON VARIOUS QUESTIONS OF COOPERATION PERTAINING TO PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY WITH THE ROC AUTHORITIES CONCERNED.

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"THE ROC AND THE U.S. CONCLUDED A BILATERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH BOTH SIDES MAINTAIN REGULAR CLOSE CONTACTS ON COOPERATION."

3. ALL JANUARY 18 LOCAL ENGLISH AND CHINESE-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS CARRIED BRIEF ITEMS ON THE U.S. NUCLEAR TEAM. TEXT OF

CHINA POST ARTICLE WAS IDENTICAL TO PRESS GUIDANCE CONTAINED REFTEL WITH THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE: QUOTE TEAM WILL STAY FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS. UNQUOTE. MOST CHINESE-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS CARRIED TEXTS SIMILAR TO CHINA POST ARTICLE, BUT ALL ADDED THAT THE VISIT WAS "AT THE INVITATION OF THE GROC."

4. IN ITS ARTICLE ON THE TEAM VISIT, CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO ALSO ADDED THAT IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE TEAM WOULD MAKE REGULAR AND ROUTINE INSPECTIONS AND CONSULTATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE US/ROC BILATERAL NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT. CKSP FURTHER COMMENTED THAT EVER SINCE A CIA REPORT THAT THE ROC WAS SECRETLY PROCESSING NUCLEAR FUEL WAS DISCLOSED BY AN AMERICAN NEWSPAPER LAST AUGUST, THE USG HAD BEEN ATTACHING IMPORTANCE TO THIS MATTER. THE U.S. SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE HELD A HEARING ON THE MATTER, PRESIDENT FORD SAID HE WOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION, AND AMBASSADOR UNGER EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN IN AUGUST AND WITH PREMIER CHIANG IN SEPTEMBER. ON SEPTEMBER 16, THE ARTICLE CONTINUED, THE PREMIER OPENLY ANNOUNCED THAT THE ROC HAD NEVER CONSIDERED MANUFACTURING NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND WOULD ABIDE BY THE NPT. HE SAID THAT THE ROC WOULD WELCOME NUCLEAR SCIENTISTS OF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES TO WORK WITH THE ROC ON THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

5. JANUARY 18 AFTERNOON ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CHINA NEWS SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE TEAM'S VISIT WAS FOR TALKS ON NUCLEAR PROGRAMS AND OTHER MATTERS BETWEEN THE ROC AND THE U.S. LEVIN AND THE TWO OTHER STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS, THE CHINA NEWS SAID, WILL TALK WITH RANKING GROC OFFICIALS ON MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO THE TWO COUNTRIES. AT THE INVITATION OF THE GROC, THE ARTICLE CONTINUED, THE (VISITING GROUP'S) FOUR (NUCLEAR SCIENTISTS) WILL REVIEW THE ROC'S NUCLEAR PROGRAMS AND CONTINUE DISCUSSION ON COOPERATION AND THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. UNGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NUCLEAR ENERGY, VISITS, NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS, PRESS RELEASES  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** MNUC, TW  
**To:** STATE  
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